

sermon notes

June 21, 2026 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church | **Preeminence**
“Get Your Mind Right” | **Colossians 3:1–4**

Think rightly about your:

1) PAST — In Christ, you have been _____
(3:1)

2) PRESENT — In Christ, your life is _____
(3:2–3)

3) FUTURE — In Christ, you will appear in _____
(3:4)

Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Colossians 3:1–4. What are the two commands that Paul gives in this passage? How do the commands in verses 1–2 flow out of the realities stated in 3:1–4? What does it mean to be “raised with Christ”?

What does it mean to “set your minds on things that are above”? What are the “above” things? What does it mean for a Christian to set his or her mind? Is this a once for all time activity? Is it daily? Weekly? Continual?

What’s the future hope that Paul alludes to in 3:4? What does it mean to appear with Christ “in glory”?

GET PERSONAL

Read Colossians 3:2. What are the earthly things that Paul tells us not to set our minds on? Can we deal with the practical matters of daily life and still be heavenly minded? If so, how? If not, why not? If someone observed your conversations, priorities, and use of time over the last month, would they conclude that your mind is primarily set on things above or on things below?

Paul assumes that the Colossian believers have died in some way in 3:3. How have they died? Have you died in Christ? In what sense has every Christian already died with Christ? How is your death connected to your status as “hidden in Christ”? If your life is “hidden with Christ in God,” what security and assurance does that provide you?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Every morning that you wake up you have an opportunity to set your mind for the day. As you do so, state your past, present, and future reality in Christ. Put the main points of the sermon in your own words. What have you experienced in Christ? What are you now experiencing in Christ? What will you experience in the future?

ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER STUDY

Examine the NT passages that speak of our future resurrection in Christ: Colossians 3:4; Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 15:20–23; Philippians 3:20–21. Compare those with the passages that speak about our resurrection with Christ as a present and/or past reality: John 5:24; Romans 6:4–11; Ephesians 2:5–6; Colossians 2:12, 3:1–3. How do we understand this in light of the already/not-yet tension of what we have in Christ Jesus?